

Patent Claims

1. An apparatus for examination of images having an image storage device (10) which is designed to store
5 image data for one or more images to be evaluated,

a display device (22) which is designed to display the image data,

10 an input device (23) for a subject, which is designed to interrogate visualization data,

a control device (24) which connects the abovementioned devices to one another,
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a data matching device (30) for matching image data and visualization data, as well as

an evaluation device (41) for calculation of a visualization profile,
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with the visualization data comprising position data which is transmitted from the input device (23),

25 wherein the input device (23) has a pointing appliance (24), with the pointing appliance (24) being designed such that it is moved manually by the subject for pointing, and the input device (23) interacting interactively with a marking (20) such that the position of the pointing appliance (24) is displayed by
30 means of the marking (20) on the display device (22).

2. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pointing appliance (24) is a computer mouse.
3. The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
5 pointing appliance (24) is a light pointer or a light pen.
4. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding
10 claims, wherein two or more input devices (23) with pointing appliances (24) are provided.
5. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding
15 claims, wherein the input device (23) together with the pointing appliances (24) is arranged physically separately from an evaluation module (3), and is connected to it via a data network, in particular a LAN or a WAN.
6. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding
20 claims, wherein the control device (24) has an event detector (28), which is designed to record the position data when a specific event occurs.
7. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the
25 event detector (28) is designed such that the specific event is the operation of a button on the pointing appliance (24).
8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the
30 event detector (28) is designed such that the specific event is the pointing appliance (24) being at rest.

9. The apparatus as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein a conversion module (29) is provided for transformation of position data from an appliance-specific coordinate system to an appliance-independent coordinate system.
10. A method for examination of images, having the following steps:
- storage (53) of image data for an image to be examined, in a memory device,
 - display (55) of the image,
 - determination of a position from data from an input device (23),
 - evaluation (58) by matching image data and position data, and by calculation of a visualization profile (73, 74),
- wherein the determination of the position comprises an interrogation of position data from a pointing appliance (24) which is moved manually by the subject, and wherein a marking (20) for the position of a pointing appliance (24) is displayed (56) interactively.
11. The method as claimed in claim 10, distinguished by interrogation of an event detector (28) for operation of the pointing appliance (24) and storage (56) of the position data on operation of the pointing appliance.

ance (24) in an event-based file.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the event
detector (28) evaluates button operation on the
5 pointing appliance (24).
13. The method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, wherein the
event detector (28) monitors the movements of the
pointing appliance (24) and is triggered when the
10 pointing appliance (24) comes to rest.
14. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 13,
wherein a computer mouse is used as the pointing ap-
pliance (24).
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15. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 13,
wherein a light pointer or a light pen is used as the
pointing appliance (24).
- 20 16. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 15,
wherein the input device (23) together with the
pointing appliance (24) transmits the position data
via a data network, in particular a LAN or WAN, to an
evaluation module (3).
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17. A computer program product for carrying out the
method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 13.